



The wee bannock

Once upon a time there was an old man and an old woman who lived in a house by the side of a burn.

One day the old woman decided to make two little oatmeal bannocks for their supper. She lay them over the fire to cook. The old man came through and smelled the bannocks cooking on the fire. He picked one up, snapped it in half and then ate it. The other bannock sat up and rubbed his eyes in horror! The wee bannock jumped down off the table and ran as fast as he could out of the house. The old woman ran after the bannock but could not catch him.

It ran and ran and ran until it came across a house with a thatched roof. It ran indoors and found three tailors. They tried to catch the bannock but it was too fast. It ran and ran and ran until it came across a weaver's house. There sat a weaver at his loom, weaving cloth while his wife helped. They tried to catch the bannock because they were still hungry from breakfast. The weaver jumped at the bannock while his wife threw her wool but it was too fast for them!

Down the hillside the wee bannock ran to the next house, where a woman was stirring a porridge pot with a stick. The woman tried to catch it. The wee bannock was out of the door in a flash.

By this time it was getting dark, and the wee bannock thought that it would have to find a safe place to sleep for the night. There was a big clump of bushes up ahead, so the wee bannock slipped into them to find a soft spot to rest. There, under the bushes, was a big hole, so the wee bannock went inside to see what was there.

Mr Fox sat and watched the wee bannock as it walked towards him; for this was the fox's home. He hadn't eaten for two days and he was very hungry. He smiled, a big, toothy smile, and said, 'Welcome, welcome!' and then with one snap of his sharp teeth he bit the wee bannock in two; and that was the end of the wee bannock.

the end

*Places connected to the legend
"The wee bannock"*



*The Royal and
Ancient Burgh of
Selkirk.*



*Selkirk is
famous for its
wee-bannock.*